“Always Be Ready To Give A Defense”
1 Pet. 3:15

Introduction:
A. Peter’s statement obligates us to know why and what we believe. (Cf. End of roast).
B. Peter’s statement indict many professed Christians – will not defend their position.
C. Peter’s statement has two very important implications for us.

Discussion:
I. We Must Have A Good Reason For Our Hope.
   A. Faith and hope for the wrong reasons is little better than error.
      1. Feelings. (Jer. 17:9).
      2. Human traditions (Matt. 15:2,9; Acts 7:51).
   B. Faith and hope must be based on word of God. (Rom. 10:17; Col. 3:17; 2 John 9-11).

II. We Must Be Prepared To Defend That Reason.
   A. With knowledge.
      2. Know the opposition. (2 Cor. 2:11; 2 Tim. 2:25).
   B. With determination.
      1. Apostles were set for defense. (Phil. 1:17; Jude 3; Acts 6:9,10; 17:1,2; 18:19,27,28).
      2. Jesus was set for defense. (Mt. 4:1-11; Mt. 23).
      3. Modern religionist seldom willing to openly defend his faith.
   C. With “Meekness And Fear.”
      1. Defend not out of vanity or pride. (cf. Prov. 16:18; 1 Cor. 4:7; Gal. 6:1)
      2. Defend to win souls not an argument. (cf. Rom. 9:3; 2 Cor. 10:5).
      3. Defend knowing that we will be judged by same standard. (Mt. 7:1-2).

Conclusion:
A. Why would one not believe in defending his hope? Same as “muley cow” not believing in hooking.
B. Why not obey 1 Pet. 3:15, if insist on obeying rest of Bible?
C. How will we answer the Lord for not being ready to answer now?